



Funded by  
the European Union

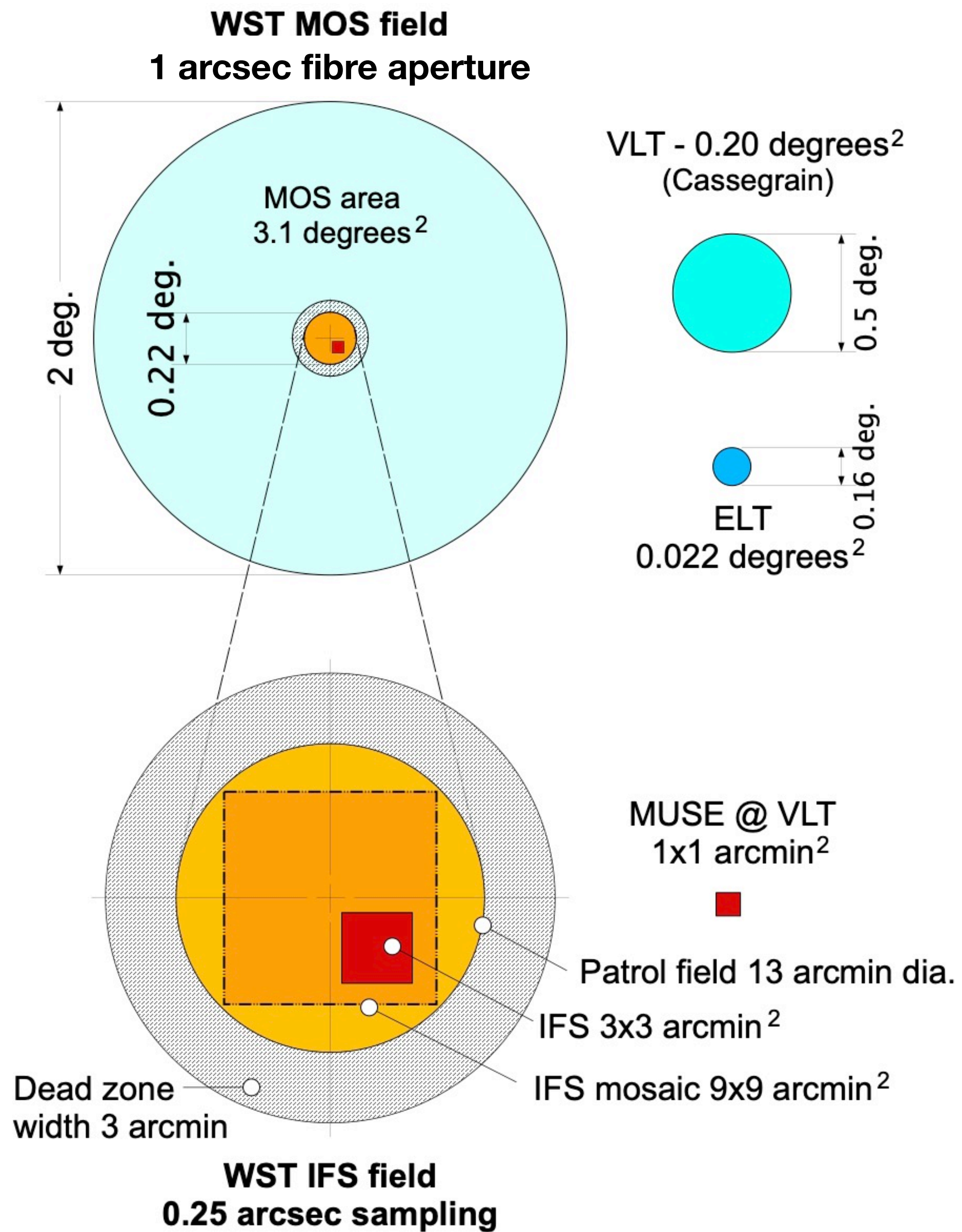
# The Wide-field Spectroscopic Telescope Status & Plans

Roland Bacon  
Centre de Recherche Astrophysique de Lyon  
and the WST collaboration



*INAF - Osservatorio Astronomico di Capodimonte, March 10 2025*

# Top Level Requirements



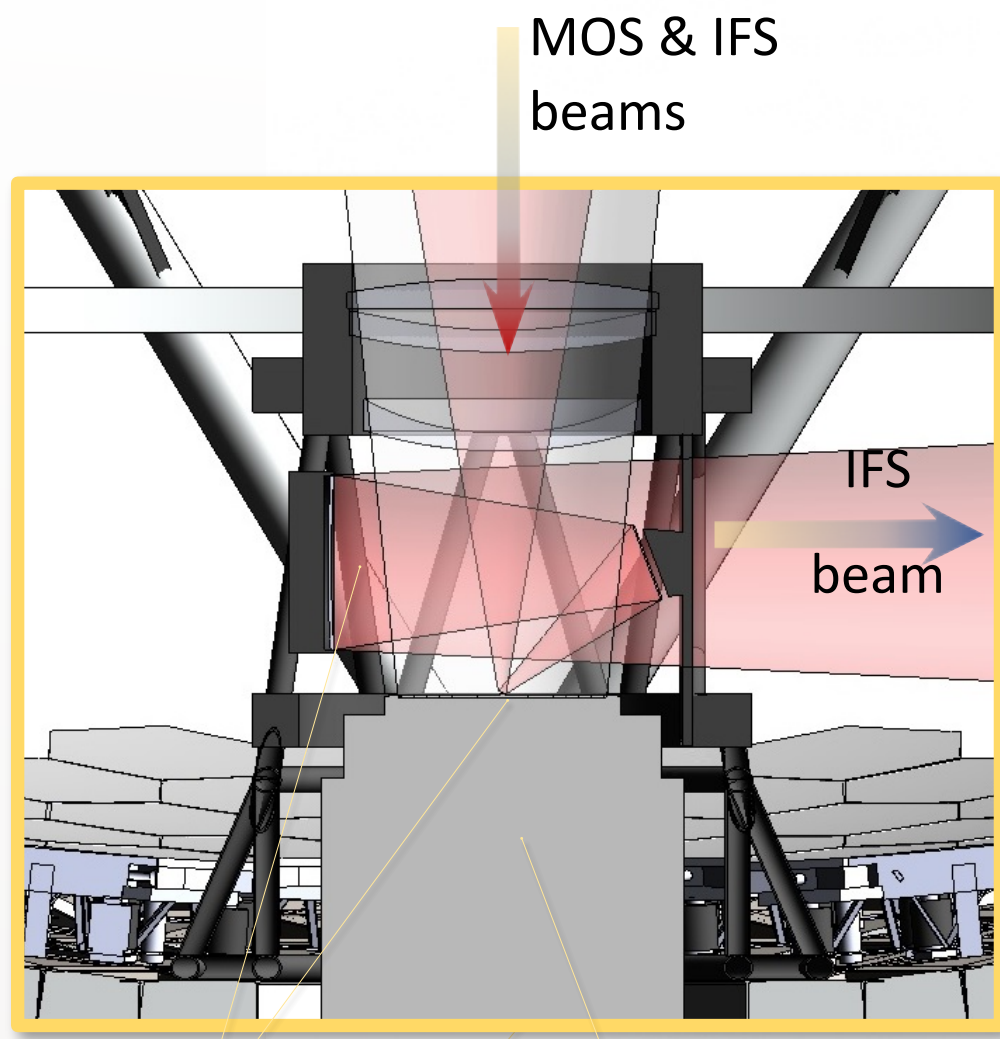
# Top Level Requirements

Telescope Aperture	12 m, seeing limited
Telescope FoV	3.1 deg <sup>2</sup>
Tel. Spec Range	0.35-1.6 μm
MOS LR Multiplex	20,000
MOS LR Resolution	3,000-4,000
MOS LR Spec Range	370-970 nm (simultaneous)
MOS HR Multiplex	2,000
MOS HR Resolution	40,000
MOS HR Spec Range	350-970 nm (3-4 regions)
IFS FoV	3x3 arcmin <sup>2</sup>
IFS Resolution	3,500
IFS Spec Range	370-970 nm (simultaneous)
IFS Mosaic	9x9 arcmin <sup>2</sup>
MOS & IFS parallel operation	
ToO implemented at telescope and fibre level	

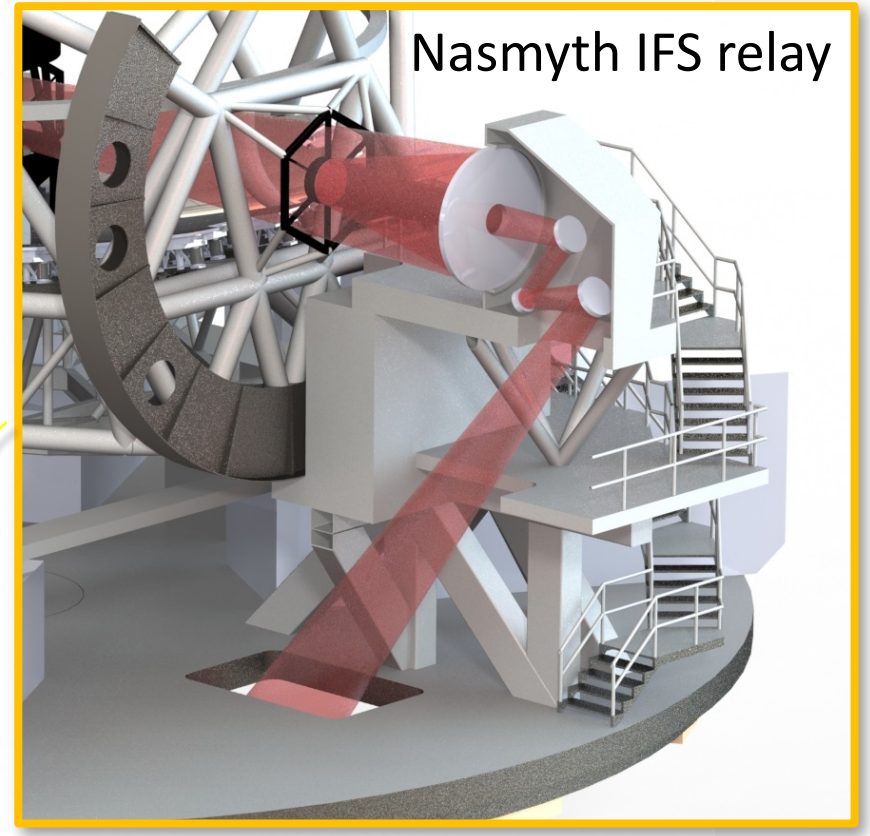


# Upgrade Plan

- An IR (1-1.6  $\mu\text{m}$ ) extension of the MOS-LR
- A MOS mini-IFUs
- A GLAO for the IFS



Field corrector & ADC



IFS Cassegrain pick-up & relay mirrors

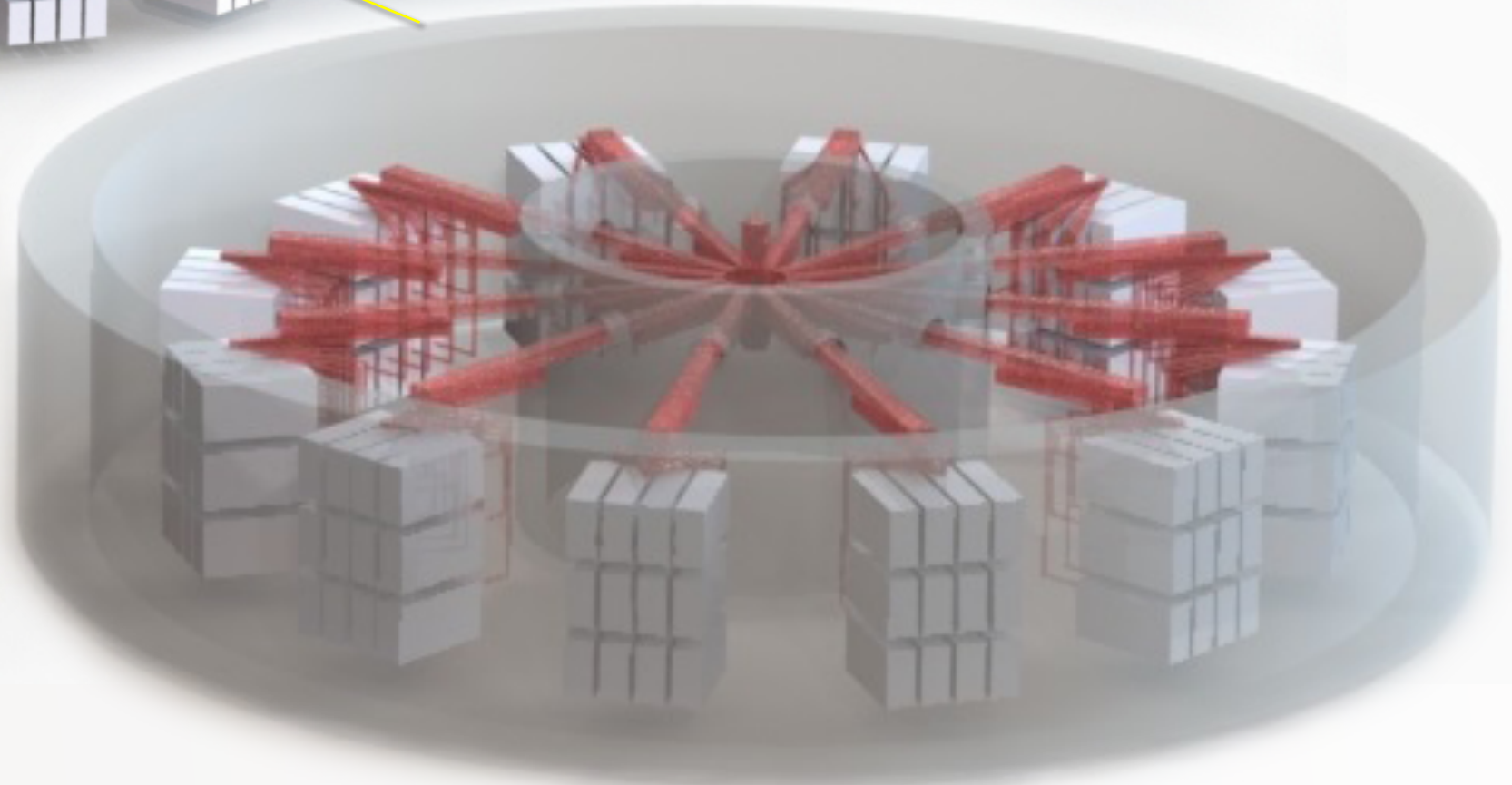
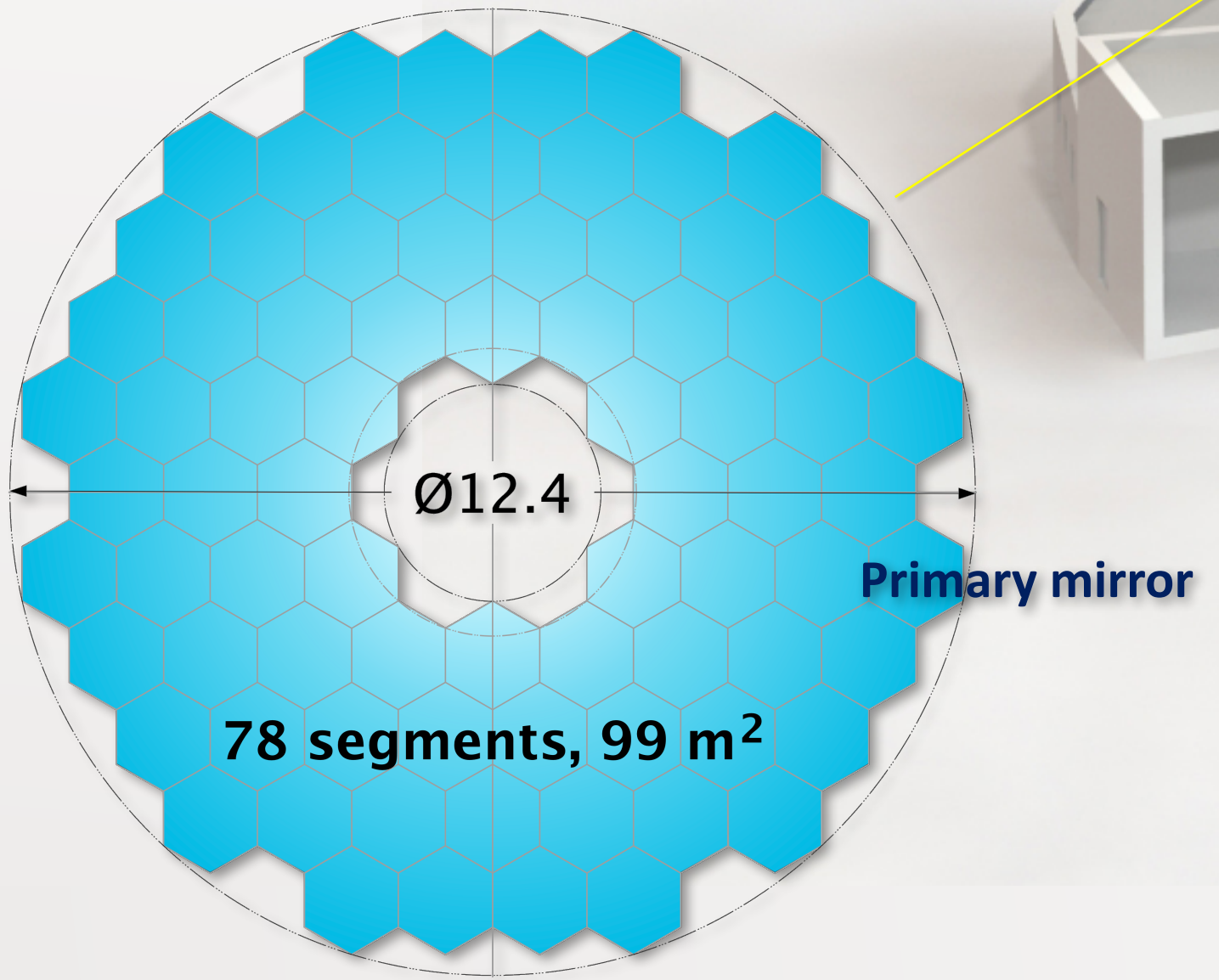
MOS f/3 focus & positioner

**MOS instruments**

IFS coudé beam & optical de-rotator

IFS f/35 focus

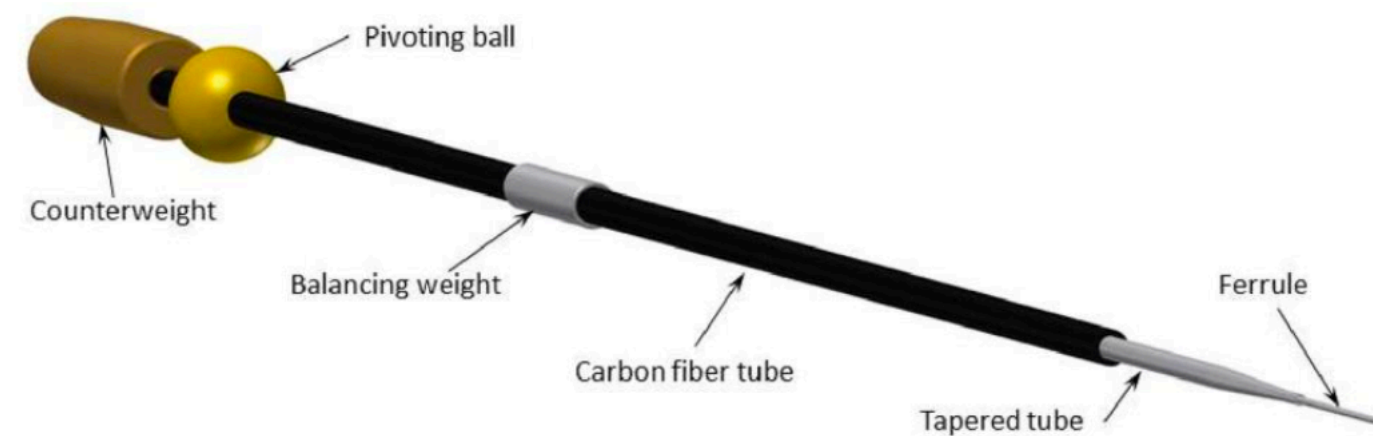
**IFS Station (144 spectrographs)**



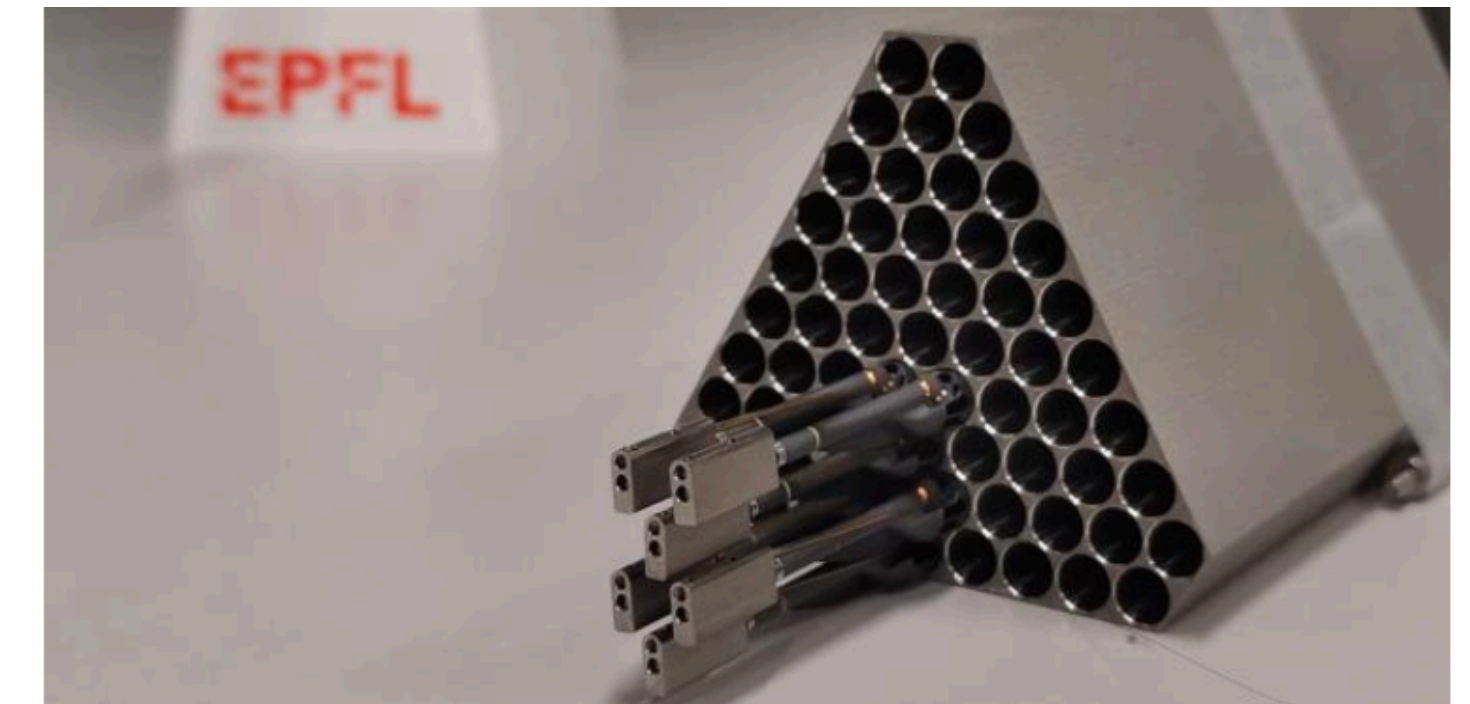
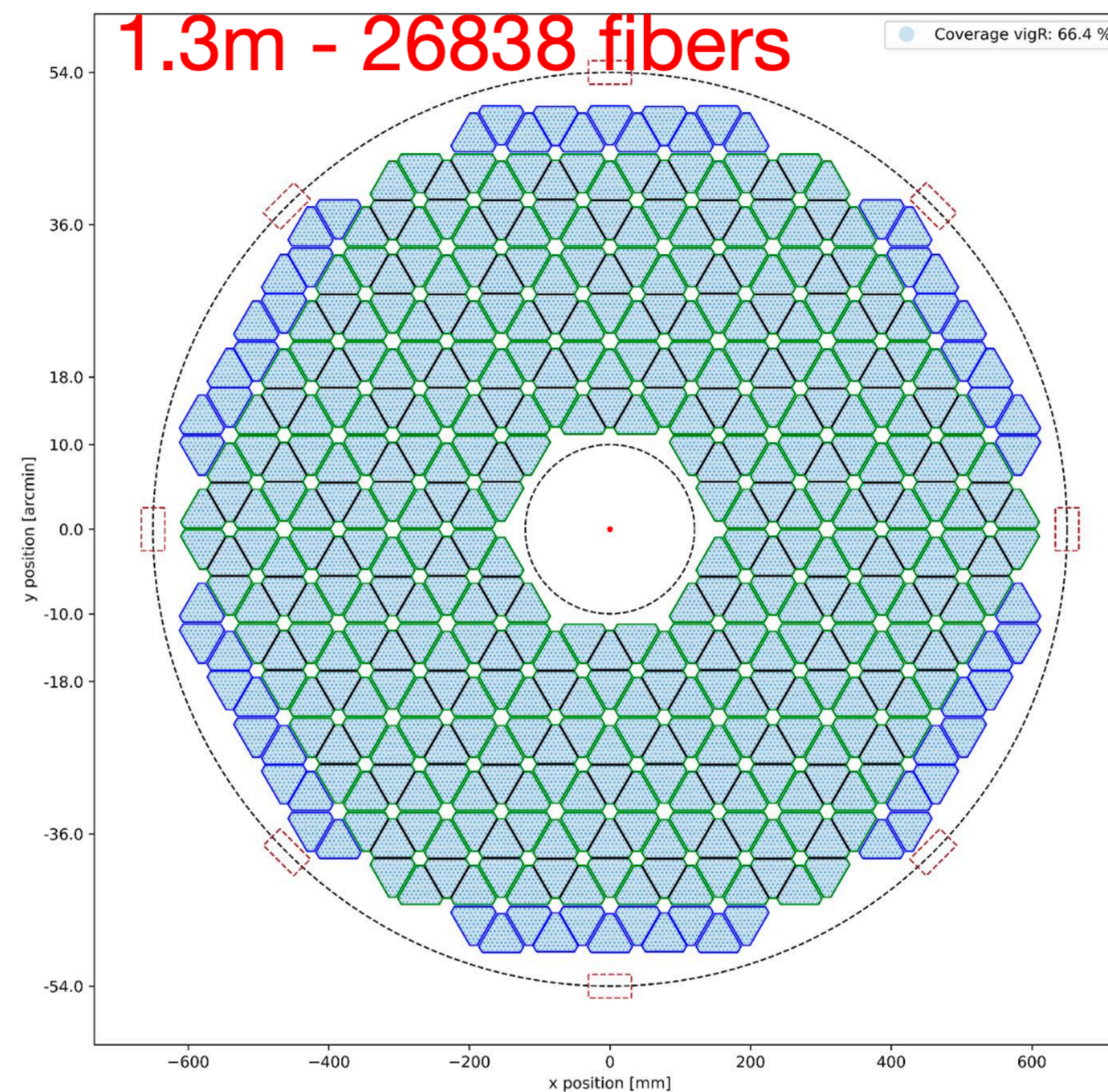
# Innovative instrument designs

## Concepts for the MOS positionner

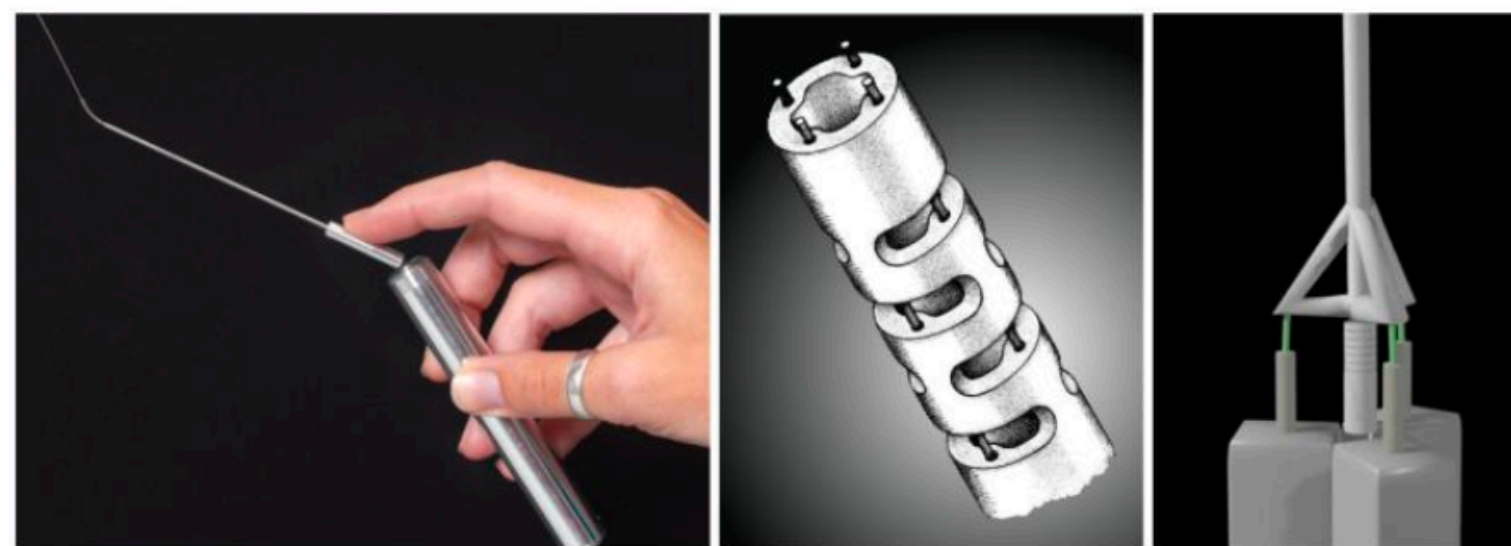
<https://doi.org/10.1117/12.3017>



Tilting spines (Echidna, 4MOST)



Theta-Phi positioners modules (EPFL)



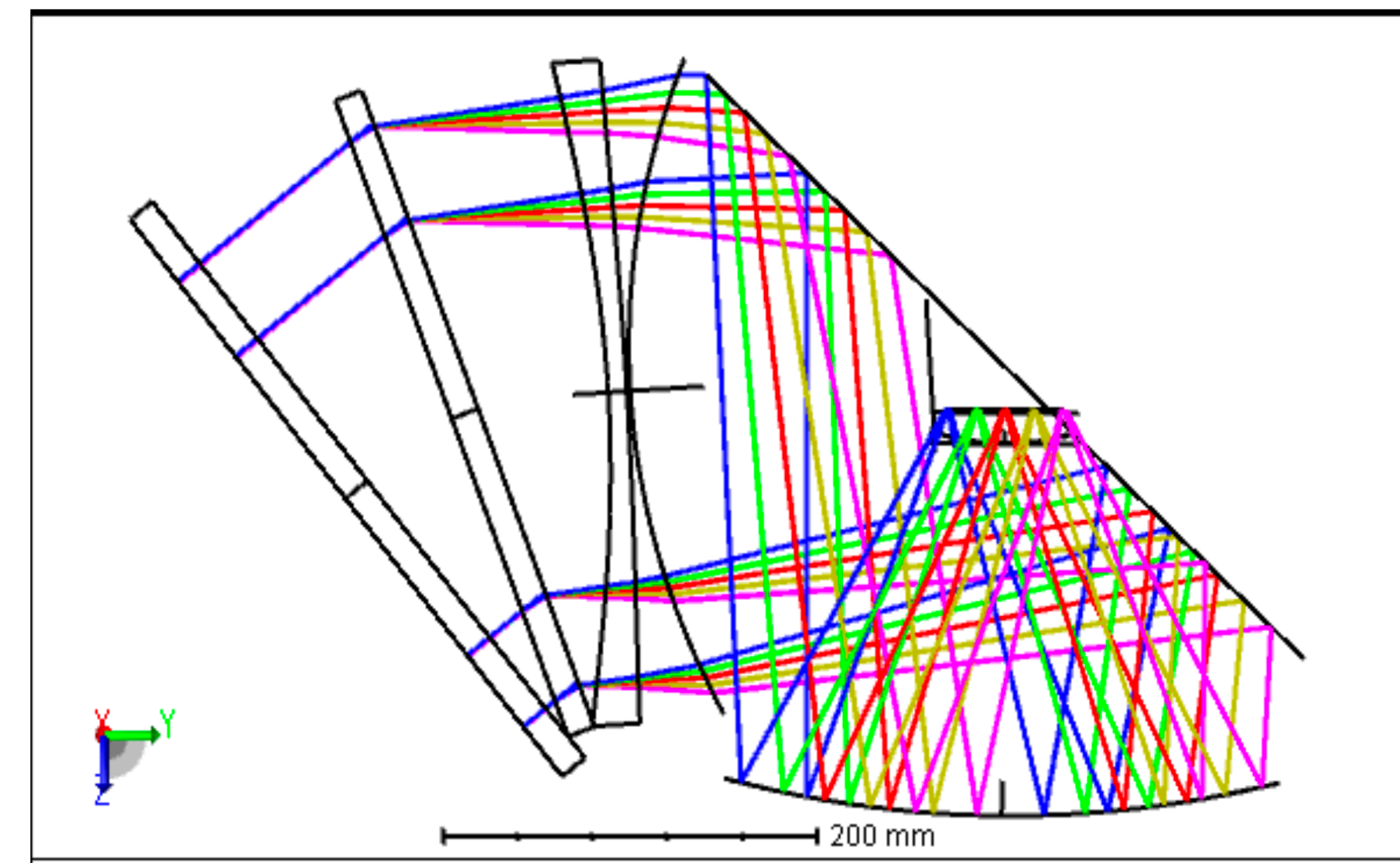
FLEX design (AIP)



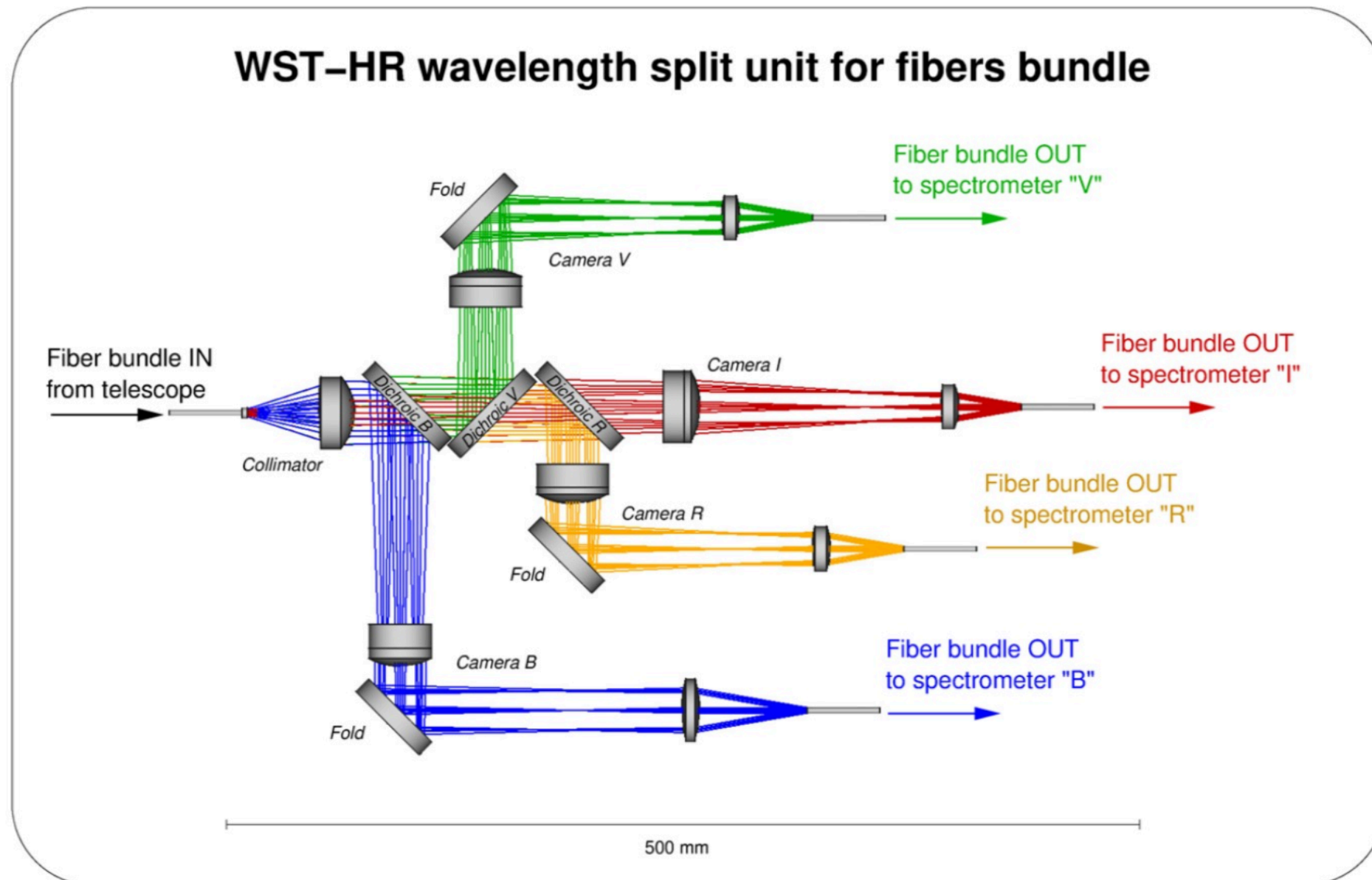
R-theta flexible positioner (UKATC)

# Innovative instrument designs

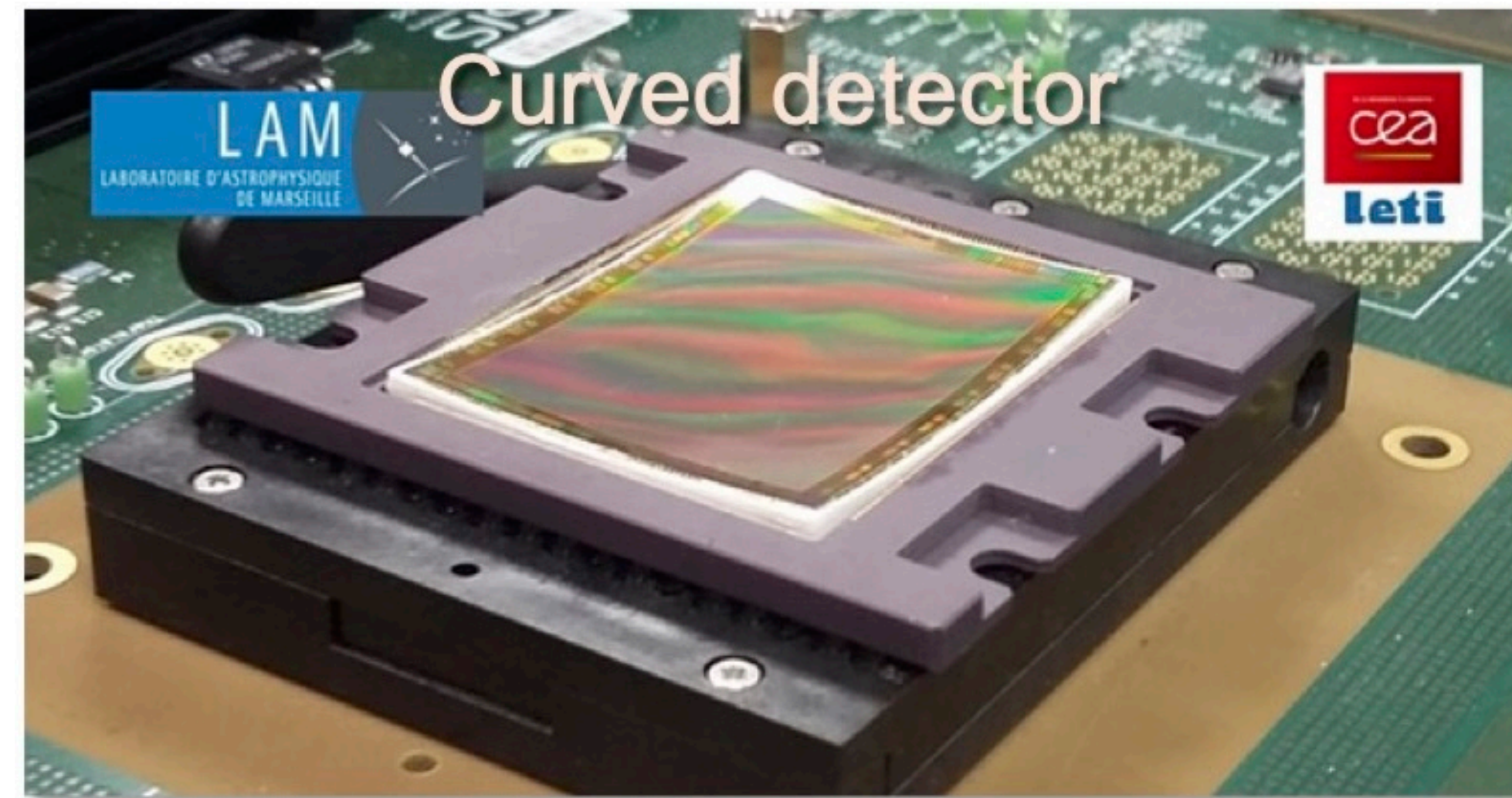
## Spectrograph optical designs



Folded solid schmidt spectrograph design  
(Sauders W)



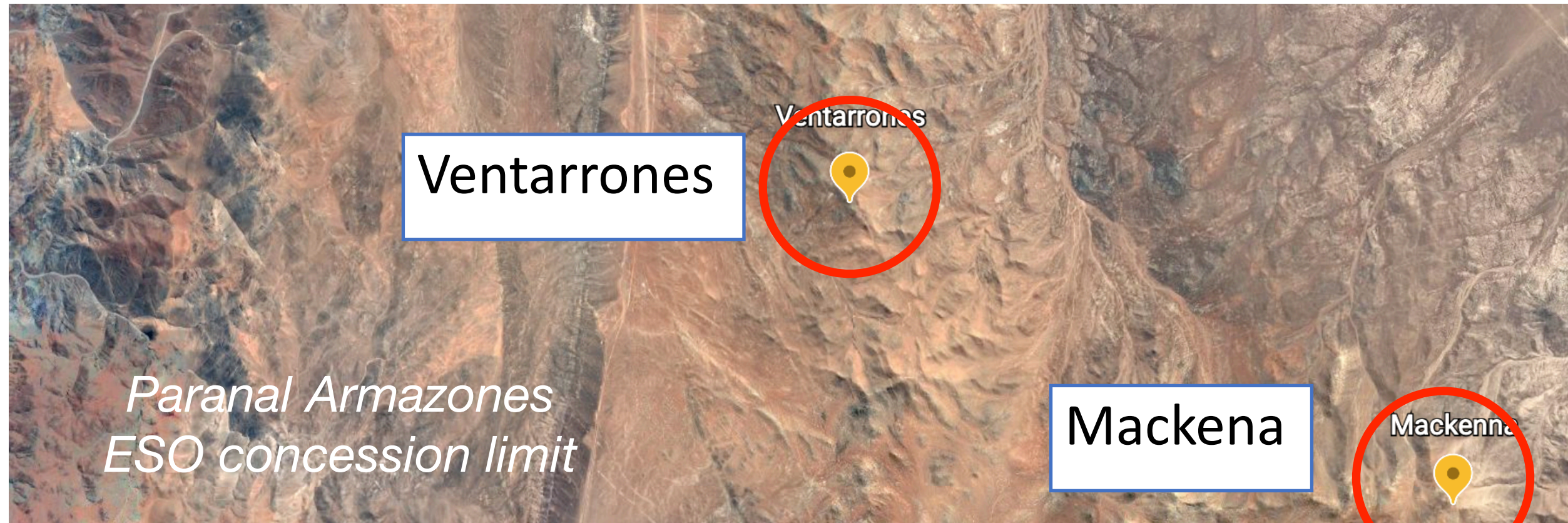
Wavelength split unit for the fiber bundle HR spectrograph (Barden S)



Curved CMOS (LAM)

# Potential sites in ESO areas

Sustainability



Paranal solar plant - 9 MW (Filippi et al, 2022)



Perfect match to  
LSST, SKA, CTA

1700 t of CO2 equivalent

Potential sites in and around Paranal-Armazones ESO area

Angel Otarola (ESO)

# Sustainability

**Efficient cooling system for ~400 detectors**



DESI cryostats (CEA)



**On-site computing facilities powered by solar plants**



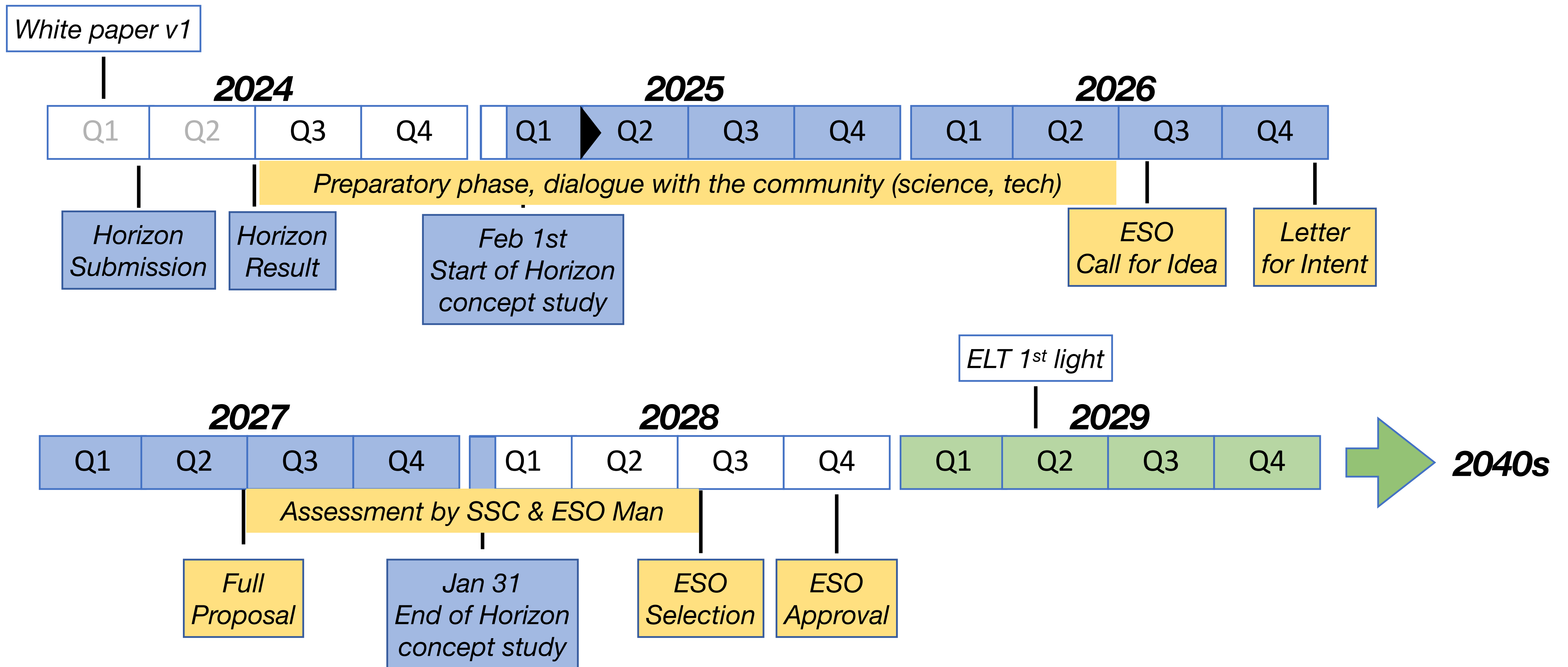
# In the first 5 years of operation, WST will provide:

- MOS LR
  - **250 million** galaxies (to AB 24.5) over **14,000 deg<sup>2</sup>**
  - **25 million** stars (to AB 23.0) over the **entire galaxy and local group**
- MOS HR
  - **A few million** stars (to AB 17.0) over most of the galaxy
- IFS
  - **4 billion** spectra over 30 deg<sup>2</sup> in diverse environments (low-density fields, galaxy and stars clusters, galactic fields ...)

# Operation challenges

- Advanced fully automated data reduction and analysis
- Running multiple surveys in parallel
- Enabling time-domain science
- Running surveys to completion while addressing new emerging scientific cases

# WST overall schedule



# WST in the Paranal-Armazones ESO context

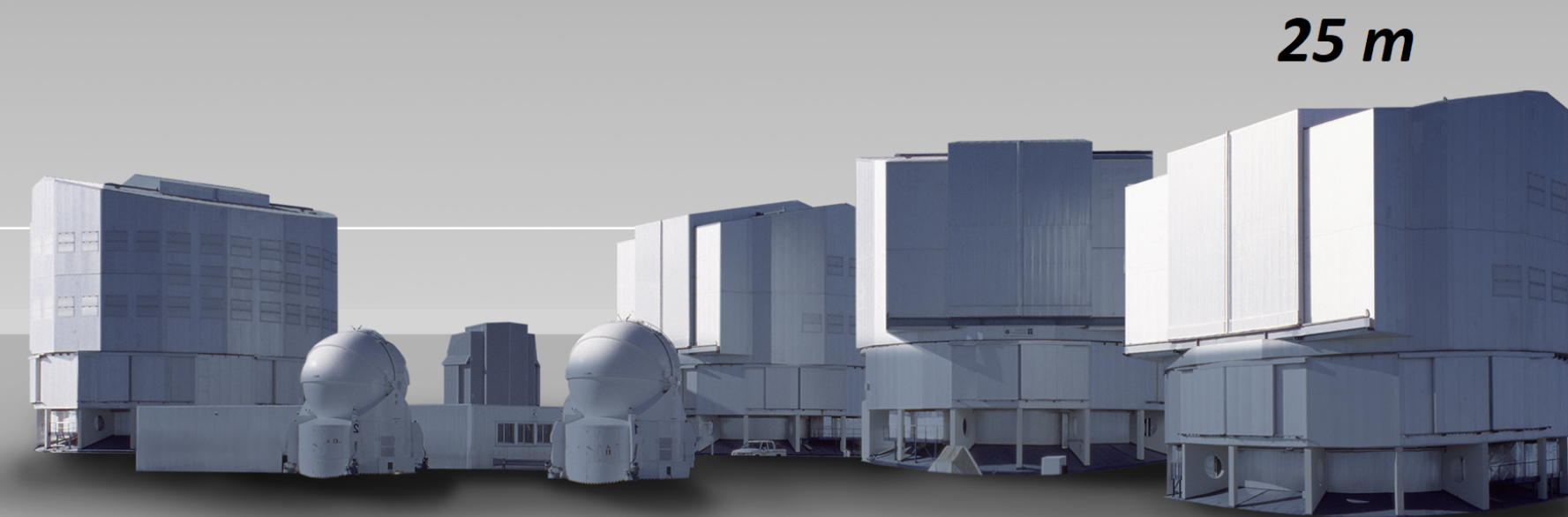
100 m

80 m

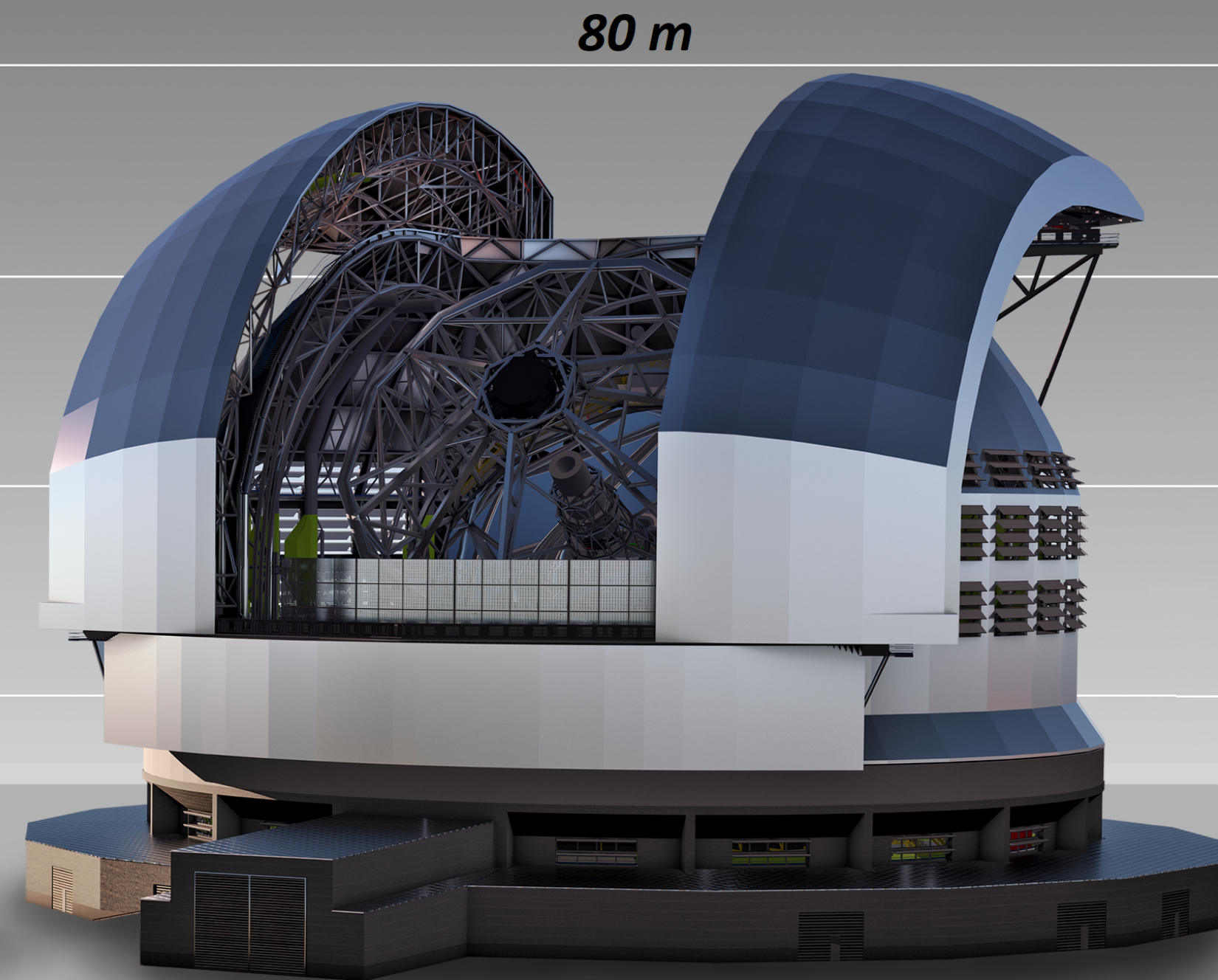
60 m

40 m

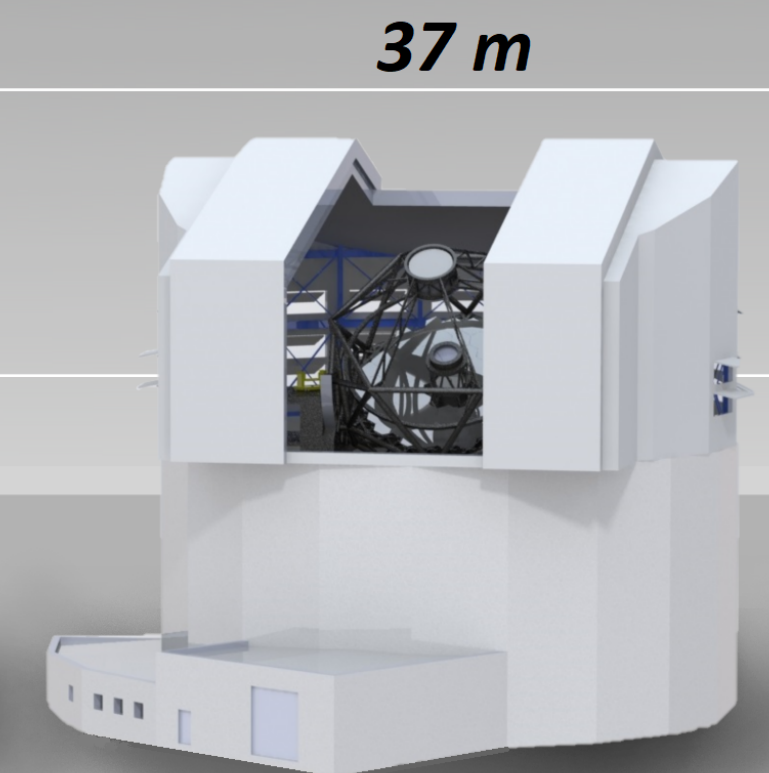
20 m



Very Large Telescope

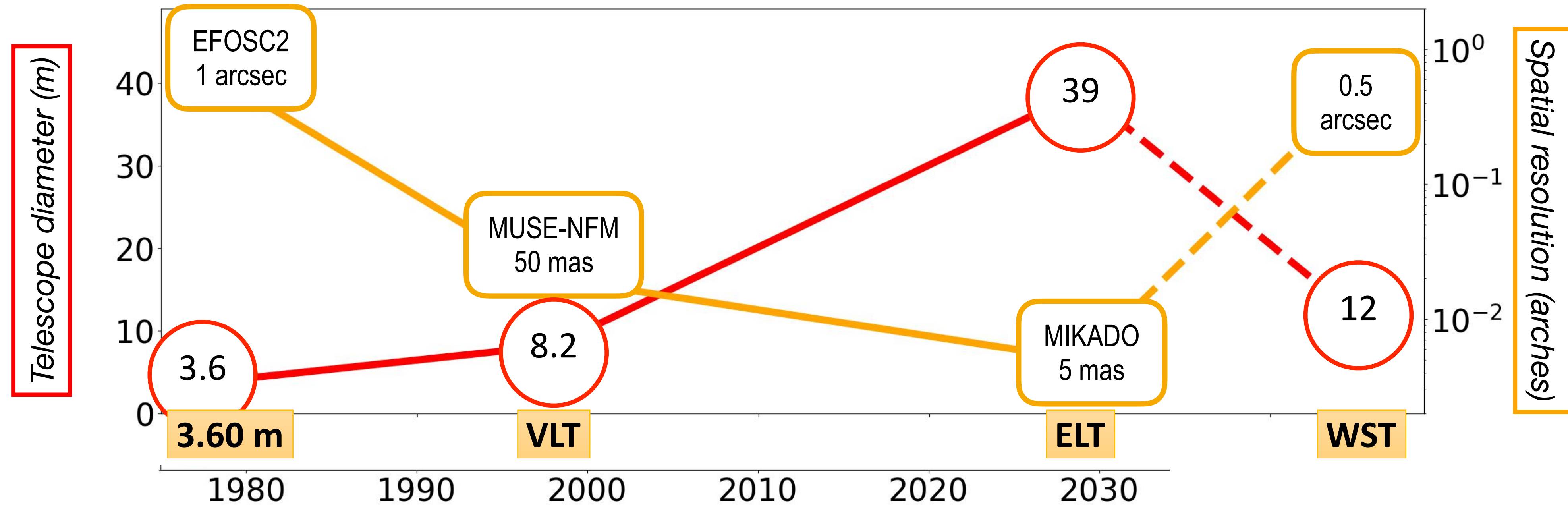


Extremely Large Telescope



Wide-field Spectroscopic Telescope

# The evolution of ESO flagship telescopes



# ESO future plans

With **Expanding Horizons**, ESO will search for its next innovative ground-based programme. We aim to identify the next **transformational facility** that will advance humanity's understanding of the Universe whilst fostering international collaboration. ESO will accept proposals from the entire astronomical community.

1998

2028

2040+

WST

European Southern Observatory

Home Timeline Upcoming Activities FAQs Contact Us

## Expanding Horizons



# Thank you

